

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 27 are now pending in the application. New Claims 11 – 27 have been added to the application. Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1 - 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to provide sufficient antecedent basis. Specifically, “the organic EL layer” in line 6 has been amended to read “an organic EL layer.” Applicant now believes that all pending claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests Examiner withdraw this rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 5 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Swirbel (U.S. Pat. No. 6,091,194). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Swirbel is generally directed towards a flat panel display that uses active matrix addressing. More specifically, Swirbel discloses two parallel substrates with an organic electroluminescent medium that emits visible light with a number of switches located on the backside of the bottom substrate.

While Applicant's invention also provides for two parallel substrates with an organic electroluminescent medium, the subject matter of amended Claims 5 and 9 further include "a protective film made of an insulating material with through holes covering the microstructures, [and] wiring passing through the through holes for connecting to the microstructures" in combination with the other elements recited in the claim. Swirbel fails to disclose these elements of the amended claims. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant's claimed invention defines patentable subject matter over Swirbel. Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw the rejection to Claims 5 and 9, and the claims depending therefrom.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 6, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swirbel (U.S. Pat. No. 6,091,194). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Although Applicant believes the previously submitted claims define patentable subject matter, Applicant has amended Independent Claims 1, 6, and 8. Amended claims 1, 6, and 8 recite "a protective film made of an insulating material covering the microstructures, the protective film having through holes," and connecting wire to the microstructures through the through holes, along with the other elements recited in the claim. Swirbel fails to teach or suggest these elements. The subject matter defined by amended Claims 1, 6, and 8 allow the substrate in which the microstructures are inlaid to be used as a surface for connecting the circuit substrate with the transparent substrate. Placing the switches on the backside of the bottom substrate, as Swirbel

discloses, does not allow the surface containing the microstructures to be used as described above. Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw this rejection from Claims 1, 6, and 8, along with the claims depending therefrom.

NEW CLAIMS

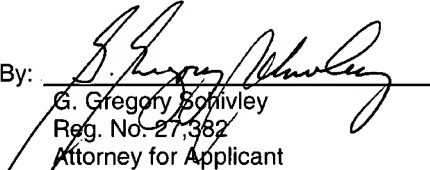
Applicant has added Claims 11 - 27 to the application. New Claims 11 – 27 show that the claimed invention is not limited to the structure in which microstructures are provided in the circuit substrate. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of these added claims.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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